

SIEMENS

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 2004P00441US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Inventor: H. Paprotna)

Serial No.: 10/774,907)

Filed: February 9, 2004)

Group Art Unit: 3676

Examiner: V. Patel

Title: SEAL USABLE BETWEEN THERMALLY MOVABLE COMPONENTS

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 2450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

As set forth in the Office Action mailed September 13, 2004, the Examiner asserts that claim 1 is generic and that Figs. 2-3, 10 (Species I), Fig. 4 (Species II), Figs. 5-8 (Species III), Fig. 9 (Species IV), and Fig. 9 (Species V) each disclose a patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. The Examiner requires Applicants to select for examination a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held allowable, as well as a listing of all claims readable thereon.

In response, Applicants respectfully submit that the following claims are readable on the following Figs: (a) Fig. 1 - no claims (prior art) (b) Figs. 2-3, 10 (Species I) - claims 1, 8 (c) Fig. 4 (Species III) - claim 1, 8, 9, 16, 20 (d) Figs. 5-8 (Species III) - claims 1-8 (e) Fig. 9 (Species IV) - claims 1, 8, 9, 16, 20 (f) Fig. 9 - (Species V) - claims 1, 8, 9, 16, 20. Applicants also note that claims 10-15 are directed toward an

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embodiment wherein the second end (ref. no. 26) has a tooth configuration like the first end (ref. no. 24) tooth configuration of claims 3-7 within Species III. Applicants also note that claims 17-19 are directed toward an embodiment wherein both the first and second ends (ref nos. 24, 26) have tooth configurations. Applicants respectfully submit that the existing drawings are sufficient for understanding the entire subject matter sought to be patented.

Applicants provisionally elect the species disclosed in Figs. 5-8 (Species III), which reads on claims 1-8 to prosecute for examination purposes in the event generic claim 1 is found not to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this paper or application, or if any undeveloped issues remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve such questions or issues. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/3/04

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